

EXHIBITION OVERVIEW
and INFORMATION



La Venaria Reale

Leonardo. The Genius, the Myth

From an Italian genius to a universal myth. The famous Self-Portrait on display for the first time in a great exhibition with works by artists who took inspiration from the genius of Leonardo over the centuries.

From November 17, 2011
to January 29, 2012
Juvarra Stables
of the Reggia di Venaria



Under the High Patronage of the President of the Italian Republic

A WORLD-CLASS EVENT AT THE REGGIA DI VENARIA.

The greatest Italian of all times is the protagonist of an outstanding exhibition at the Reggia in the Juvarra Stables . An unprecedented, unique and exceptional event: the famous Self-Portrait by Leonardo will be on show in this major exhibition that marks the end of the celebrations for the 150th anniversary of Italy's Unification, a tribute to the brightest example of the Italian creative genius.

**For Information and Reservations: tel. +39 011 4992333
www.leonardoallavenariareale.it**

Created by

The exhibition, promoted by Comitato Italia 150, is organised by the Italian Ministry for the Cultural Heritage and Cultural Activities - General Directorate for Libraries, Cultural Institutions and Copyright - Regional Department for Cultural Heritage and Landscape of Piedmont and the Royal Library of Turin, and by Consorzio La Venaria Reale.

General Coordination

Mario Turetta, Regional Director for the Cultural and Landscape Heritage of Piedmont
Alberto Vanelli, Director of the Consortium for the Cultural Promotion of La Venaria Reale and Executive Vice-President of Comitato Italia 150

Curators

Section I: Leonardo: il genio e il suo volto

Carlo Pedretti, A. Hammer Center for Leonardo Studies, Los Angeles
Paola Salvi, Accademia di Belle Arti di Brera, Milan
Clara Vitulo, Royal Library, Turin

Section II: *Il volto di Leonardo tra realtà e mito*

Pietro C. Marani, Ente Raccolta Vinciana, Milan

Section III: *Il mito di Leonardo nell'arte contemporanea*

Renato Barilli, University of Bologna

Section IV: *Il mito di Leonardo nel cinema e nella televisione*

Arnaldo Colasanti, Università Roma Tre

Scientific Committee

Carmen Bambach, Metropolitan Museum, New York

Sandrina Bandera, Soprintendenza Beni Storico Artistici ed Etnoantropologici di Milano

Pinin Brambilla Barcillon, La Venaria Reale Conservation and Restoration Center Foundation

Marzia Faietti, Cabinet of Prints and Drawings of the Uffizi, Florence

Marco Filippi, Turin Polytechnic

Edith Gabrielli, Soprintendenza Beni Storici Artistici ed Etnoantropologici del Piemonte

Romano Nanni, Biblioteca Leonardiana, Vinci

Annalisa Perissa Torrini, Gallerie dell'Accademia, Venice

Technical and project supervision and monitoring for the exhibition of the drawings

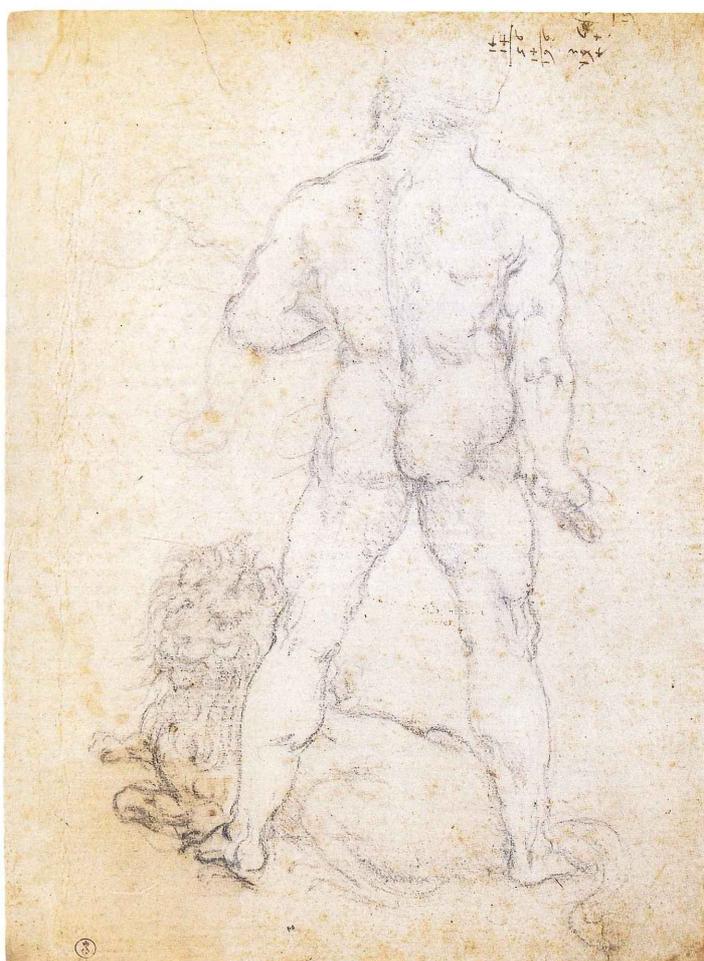
Central Institute for the Restoration and the Conservation of the Archival and Library Heritage of Rome

Cristina Misiti, Flavia Pinzari and Eugenio Veca

in collaboration with

Turin Polytechnic, Department of Energy

Marco Filippi, Marco Perino



Video "The Deluge"

Carlo Pedretti, Mark Whitney, narrator Anjelica Huston

Video "What did the young Leonardo look like?"

Piero Angela

Video "Ascolto il tuo cuore, o città"

Koji Myazaki

Conserving Leonardo: the Last Supper

Insights on restoration by Pinin Brambilla Barcillon

Digital reproduction and interactive navigation on iPad by Haltadefinizione

Installation *L'Oro Invisibile. Il Cenacolo, Leonardo da Vinci. 12+1 Opere Preziose*

Giulio Manfredi

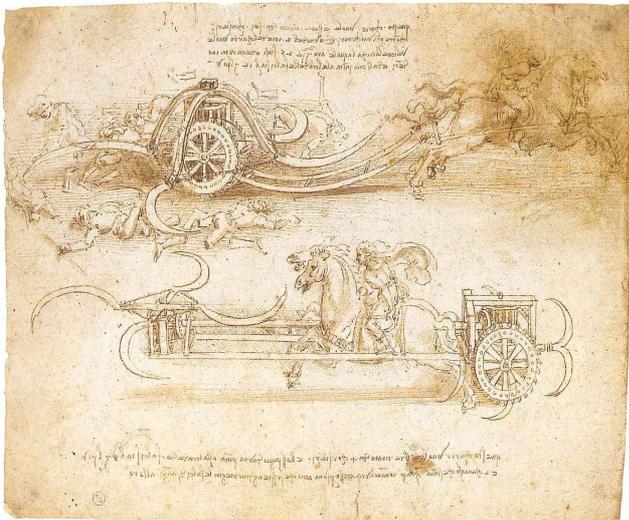
Set-up and display

Dante Ferretti

The exhibition

The exhibition was organised in the framework of the celebrations by Esperienza Italia for the 150th Anniversary of Italy's Unification. It is a journey through the work of Leonardo da Vinci that includes around thirty original drawings on loan from leading Italian and international museums and several writings on the Self-Portrait from the Royal Library of Turin that will be on display through a special concession by the Ministry for the Cultural Heritage and Cultural Activities. Also on display are a number of works from the 15th to the 20th century that illustrate Leonardo's fascination with physiognomy that would later reflect in ancient and modern art and the force of the myth of Leonardo himself in contemporary art.

The opening section of the exhibition presents a biography of the artist and references to Leonardo's social context, his cultural background and training and his various fields of activity.



There follows a video curated by **Piero Angela**, entitled "What did the young Leonardo look like?", to illustrate Leonardo's work with particular emphasis on the artist's appearance.

The exhibition ends with a multimedia display, introduced by a digital replica on a 1:1 scale of *The Last Supper* by Leonardo that was designed and produced by Haltadefinizione, for an in-depth analysis of physical appearance and expressions in one of Leonardo's masterpieces.

The fortune of Leonardo in the media is presented through a number of films inspired to his Genius, curated by **Arnaldo Colasanti**.

The section on Leonardo's drawings, curated by Carlo Pedretti, Paola Salvi and Clara Vitulo, presents the Codex on the Flight of Birds and a complete set of thirteen original papers by Leonardo that are part of the collections of the Royal Library of Turin, including the famous Self-Portrait. Prestigious Italian and international loans provide additional context and further integrate the subjects present in the Turin collection, with a special focus on the human face, nature, human anatomy and machines.

Selected works by artists from the late 15th to the 19th century, curated by **Pietro C. Marani**, provide an overview of the figure of Leonardo in literature and figurative art, as the very appearance of the artist becomes an icon of the Renaissance genius.

Starting in the 1500s the image of the Master was associated with that of Heraclitus, the Greek philosopher who led the way into the investigation of nature. The same fascinating image continues to this



day.

The figure of Leonardo in contemporary art - curated by Roberto Barilli - opens with the Vitruvian Man by Mario Ceroli and the famous tribute *Mosa Lisa with moustache* by Marcel Duchamp. Another major inspiration was *The Last Supper*, reprised by Andy Warhol as well as many other recent protagonists of the art scene like Spoerri, Nitsch, Recalcati, David La Chapelle. Leonardo's Notes from the *Treatise on Painting* describe stains on the walls as forms of arcane passages, a theme that was embraced by Informal Art and specifically *Tachisme*, including Tàpies, Rotella, Bendini and Novelli.

The Reggia di Venaria

The exhibition is organised in the vast spaces of the 18th-century Great Stables by Filippo Juvarra of the Reggia di Venaria. The display is designed by the Academy-Award winner **Dante Ferretti**, who presents Leonardo's imposing machines as spectacular settings that contain original works. Spectacular video projections on the walls celebrate the *Self-Portrait*.

Catalogue

Silvana Editoriale

***In collaboration with Lavazza
and Iren S.p.A., Alenia Aeronautica S.p.A.,
Gondrand***

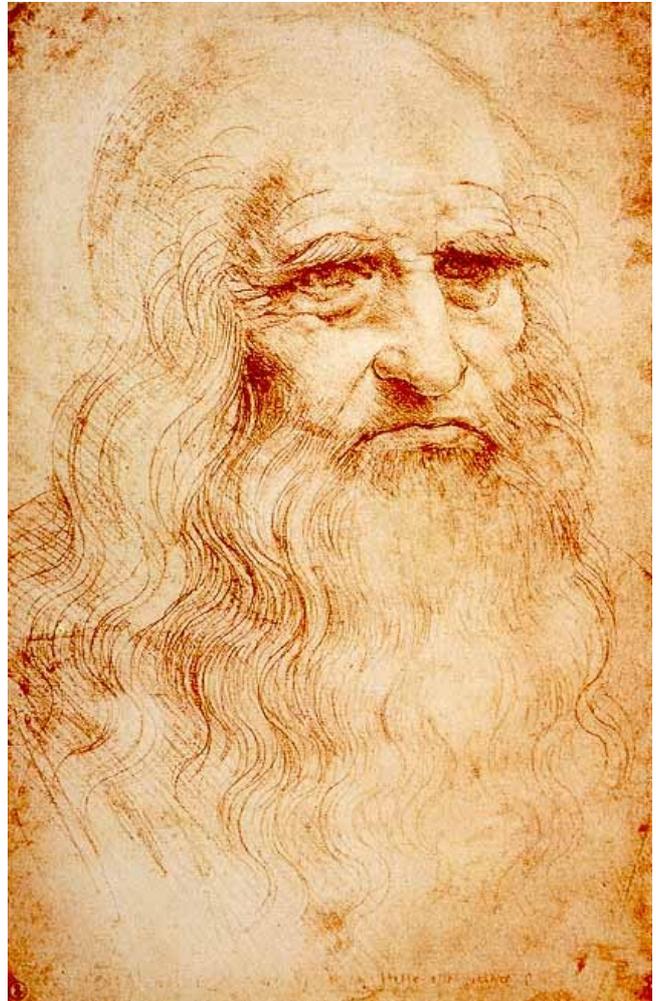
All the works on display are monitored using the innovative microclimate control system WINECAP, that is fully wireless, designed and created by **Capetti Elettronica S.r.l.** in collaboration with the Department of Energy of the Turin Polytechnic.

All Esperienza Italia initiatives are organised under the High Patronage of the President of the Italian Republic.

For more information on the 2011 calendar of events at the Reggia di Venaria visit:

www.italia150.it - www.lavenariareale.it -
www.leonardoallavenariareale.it

Reservations: tel. +39 011 4992333



FOR IMAGES:

www.lavenaria.it sect. Press Office / Cartelle stampa (su mostra Leonardo)

INFORMATION

Leonardo. The Genius, the Myth

From 17 November 2011 to 29 January 2012 - Juvarra Stables of the Reggia di Venaria

Admission

- Full ticket: 12.00 euros
- Discounted ticket: 8.00 euros (65+, under 18 and disabled)
- Discounted for groups: 8.00 euros (min. 12 people)
- Discounted for schools: 5.00 euros (min. 15 students and 1 teacher)

Visit the exhibitions at a discount

Visit two major exhibitions - *Moda in Italia* and *Leonardo. Il genio e il mito* - on the same day and purchase one admission ticket at full price and the other at a discount. The same option is also available for a visit of the Reggia + one exhibition.

Important information for visitors and reservations

Given the exceptional nature of the exhibition and the extraordinary measures required for the conservation and the safety of the works on display, **only 120 visitors are allowed inside the Stables every 30 minutes.**

To prevent delays please follow these indications:

- **Groups** (max. 25 / min. 12 people per group): book your visit by phone at +39 011 4992333 or by email at prenotazioni@lavenariareale.it (for schools: tel. +39 011 4992355 - prenotazione.servizi.educativi@lavenariareale.it)
- **Individual visitors:** purchase a "print-at-home" ticket in advance at www.ticketone.it and print the corresponding bar code
- **Visitors are invited to be punctual based on the admission time** indicated on their ticket/reservation.

Visitors are allowed to spend **no more than 10 minutes** inside the Shearing Machine, where the Self-Portrait and other drawings by Leonardo are on display.

How to get here

Venaria is located approximately 10 km from the centre of Turin and it can be reached:

- By GTT "Venaria Express" shuttle bus
- By bus: GTT lines 72, 11
- By train: GTT line Torino Dora – Ceres (Venaria, viale Roma stop)
GTT toll free number: +39 800 019152 - www.comune.torino.it/gtt
- By car: Torino – Nord ring road, Venaria exit (La Venaria Reale – Reggia e Giardini) or Savonera / Venaria (La Venaria Reale - Scuderie Juvarriane)
- By plane: Sandro Pertini International Airport at Caselle Torinese. From the airport take the Expressway (Superstrada) to Turin or the Turin – Ceres train.
Flight Information: tel. +39 011 5676361 – www.aeroportoditorino.it

The main PARKING AREAS near the Venaria Reale estate are:

- Parking Area in viale Carlo Emanuele II - CARLO EMANUELE II PARKING AREA (access lane to the Park of La Mandria, recommended for COACHES, exit La Venaria Reale - Reggia e Giardini of the Torino-Nord ring road)

- JUVARRA PARKING AREA (via Don Sapino, that can be reached from the Torino – Nord ring road, exit “Savonera/La Venaria Reale Scuderie Juvarriane”)

Accessibility

The Reggia is accessible to visitors with motor disabilities and provides supports for deaf and blind visitors.

Available Services

Bookshop, cafés and snack bars, first-class restaurant, access for disabled visitors, audioguides, guided tours, didactic activities, location rental.

The Reggia offers several picnic areas and high-quality food services at affordable prices.

Caffé degli Argenti, the café with a panoramic terrace where to enjoy sandwiches and cakes

Chiosco delle Rose, the café and ice-cream parlour under the pergolas near a picnic area

Patio dei Giardini, the restaurant-café plunged into the gardens, with a vast selection of hot and cold food

Gli Arconi, a rest area with snacks and drinks dispensers

Info & reservations: tel. +39 011 4598835 - ristorazione@lavenariareale.it

Information, Reservations and Guided Tours:

Tel.: +39 011 4992333 - prenotazioni@lavenariareale.it

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